

Safe Streets Initiative

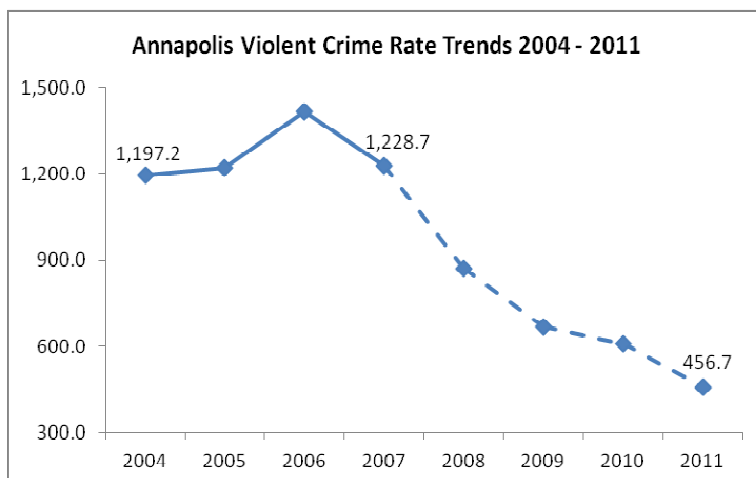
Working to Reduce Violent Crime in Maryland

Governor O'Malley's Safe Streets initiative (Safe Streets) is an offender-based model established to institute collaboration and information sharing across all levels of government to dramatically reduce crime. The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) partners with local jurisdictions that demonstrate both a need for and commitment to comprehensive collaboration across their local criminal justice systems. The objective of Safe Streets is significant violent crime reduction through seamless coordination, consistent interagency collaboration and information sharing by focusing on that core group of offenders who commit the majority of violent offenses locally.

Because Safe Streets Coalition membership is diverse and requires careful coordination to ensure success, each participant's role must be clearly defined. Therefore, the Safe Streets Coalition must sign an MOU with each participating agency. The first Safe Streets Initiative was awarded to Annapolis in October 2008 and a second Safe Streets Coalition was awarded to Salisbury in 2010. As of July 1, 2012, GOCCP is funding a total of 7 Safe Streets sites.

Safe Streets Makes an Impact

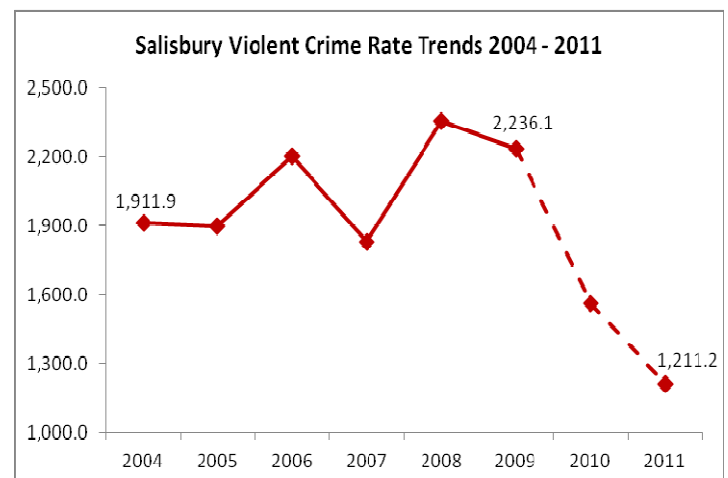
Since 2007, a year before Safe Streets was initiated; Annapolis has seen a significant 60.5% reduction in violent crime. The city has also seen significant reductions in robberies (-61.8%), aggravated assaults (-61.0%), burglaries (-54.9%), larceny/theft (-33.4%), and motor vehicle thefts (-63.1%) over the same period.



Minimum Partners Include:

- County and/or Municipal Executive Department
- Municipal Police Departments
- County Police Department
- County Sheriff's Office
- County State's Attorney's Office
- Local Detention Center
- Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP)
- Maryland State Police (MSP)
- Division of Parole & Probation (DPP)
- Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
- U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO)
- Housing/Code Compliance

Since 2009, a year before Safe Streets was initiated; Salisbury has seen a significant 42.4% reduction in violent crime. The city also had significant reductions in robberies (-62.6%), aggravated assaults (-35.6%), burglaries (-44.4%), larceny/theft (-22.5%), and motor vehicle thefts (-41.0%) over the same period.



Safe Streets Initiative

Safe Streets Goals

At a minimum, the Coalition creates custom collaboration and information sharing strategies to achieve the following 10 Safe Streets goals:

1. **Identify and Prioritize Offenders:** Compile a list of Priority Offenders contributed by law enforcement agencies, the Division of Parole & Probation, and the Department of Juvenile Services in consultation with the U.S. Attorney's Office and State's Attorney's Office.
2. **Supervise and Contain Priority Offenders:** Priority offenders relegated to "We're watching" status during which specific tactics (law enforcement, agent contact, home visits, call-ins, etc.) may be implemented to supervise, contain and build cases.
3. **Identify and Prioritize Warrants:** Safe Streets warrant apprehension efforts must center on a targeted approach to warrant service; prioritizing outstanding warrants for the highest risk offenders including DPP and DJS Violence Prevention Initiative (VPI) offenders. Efforts depend upon solid partnerships among local, State, and federal agencies.
4. **Establish A Watch Center Model:** Information sharing at the time of booking is critical to leveraging the Division of Parole & Probation's authority to violate priority offenders and remove them from the streets. Communication and procedures need to be institutionalized among DPP, the Detention Center, and the State's Attorney's Office to ensure that all priority offenders under DPP supervision coming through the detention center are detained, held at high bail, and subjected to a hearing.
5. **Train Patrol on Safe Streets Strategies:** Patrol officers must be aware of the evolving Coalition strategies and must be consistently trained on available technologies like the Maryland Criminal Justice Dashboard and policies such as Priority Offender Lists, the Violence Prevention Initiative (VPI), and EXILE.
6. **Establish A Prosecution Strategy for Priority Offenders:** Law enforcement agencies and local and federal prosecutors must outline procedures to vet priority offender case strategies on a monthly basis.
7. **Track the Prosecutions of Priority Offenders:** A template must be established to track ongoing prosecutions of Safe Streets Priority Offenders. All identified priority offenders, and new offenders arrested for priority offenses must be tracked through final court dispositions.
8. **Identify and Enforce Suspended and Truant Children**
9. **Nuisance Abatement:** Maximize city services in high-risk areas designated by law enforcement. Services include public works, code enforcement, and abandoned vehicle removal. Identify laws and regulations such as: code enforcement and housing that can be leveraged to support public safety efforts.
10. **Ensure local law enforcement agencies are equipped with the highest level of technology available:** GOCCP provides free technical assistance to primary agencies on State technology resources that promote data-driven operations: Maryland Criminal Justice Dashboard, Maryland Offender Management System, Compstat on Demand, Crime Analysis, and Crime Mapping services. All resources give law enforcement the tools they need to make fast, accurate, informed decisions on Maryland's most violent offenders.

Annapolis Safe Streets statistics since 2008:

- Served 2,466 warrants
- Seized 94 guns
- Prosecuted 132 gun cases
- Prosecuted 161 violent crime cases
- Prosecuted 122 criminal drug cases
- Arrested 164 gang members
- Conducted 121 joint home visits with DPP or DJS
- Generated 617 maps

Salisbury Safe Streets statistics since 2010:

- Served 214 warrants
- Prosecuted 93 gun cases
- Prosecuted 274 violent crime cases
- Prosecuted 345 criminal drug cases
- Arrested 23 gang members
- Conducted 125 joint home visits with DPP or DJS
- Generated 77 maps

Updated September 2012